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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON JUNE 11, 2001

THOMAS S. DEIBERT, REG. NO. 40,984 AGENT/ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Attorney Docket No. GM50005-D1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Payne, et al. Serial No.: 09/292,411

Filed: April 15, 1999

For: Novel fabI

Group Art Unit No.: 1645

Examiner: Fields, I.

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Communication mailed June 1, 2001 (Paper No. 8). Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

This Amendment is believed timely filed. Should this Amendment not be considered timely filed, Applicant hereby requests a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0258.

¹ If an Extension is deemed necessary, please consider this Paper to comprise a Petition for such an Extension.